

The City of Los Angeles is Prepared for El Niño

- The City of Los Angeles has an Emergency Management Department and an extensive Emergency Operations Plan that addresses all hazards that might impact L.A. When a storm is approaching, the Emergency Operations Center will be activated to coordinate all emergency response.
- The City is coordinating with our partners at L.A. County's Office of Emergency Management and Department of Public Works to ensure flood management systems are ready for weather.
- The Bureau of Sanitation has cleaned over 40,000 catch basins and more than 70 debris basins -- and will continue to clean them as needed through the rainy season. To report blocked storm drains or other flood control problems, call 1-800-773-2489, 3-1-1, or use the MyLA311 app.
- The Bureau of Street Services is pro-actively sweeping all major streets during the weekends of the month of November in addition to the weekly street sweeping of residential streets. Extra street sweeping will continue through the rainy season as needed. Crews are on standby to respond quickly during a storm and have pre-staged equipment in high-risk areas to assist with debris removal and fallen trees.
- LAFD has prepared 200,000 sandbags and 250 tons of sand at neighborhood fire stations. It has also pre-staged barriers at high-risk locations that may need to be closed due to flooding and mudslides. The department will monitor debris flow during rainstorms, perform swift water rescues, and assist with evacuations if necessary.
- Facilities run by the Department of Recreation and Parks are ADA compliant and are prepared to become shelters if needed during storms.
- The Department of Water & Power has crews on standby to restore power outages and respond to any other emergencies. To report a downed powerline, call 9-1-1 or 1-800-Dial-DWP immediately -- never touch a downed or dangling wire or anyone or anything in contact with it. And because El Niño doesn't mark the end of our drought, LADWP has partnered with L.A. County Flood Control District to increase stormwater capture and is offering rebates on home rain barrels.

- The Department of Transportation will assist with street closures and traffic flow on 7,500 miles of city streets during heavy rains.
- The Department of Building and Safety will conduct assessments and post placards depending on site conditions.
- The Housing Authority is assessing public housing and making repairs as needed. The Housing and Community Investment Department is working with affordable housing managers to make sure their properties are prepared for storms.
- The Bureau of Engineering will be continually assessing hillsides for potential instability throughout the season.
- LAX has acquired extra pumps in case of flooding and repaired all roofs, windows, and gutters as needed.
- The Department of Animal Services is prepared to evacuate its shelters if necessary. The Specialized Mobile Animal Rescue Team is trained in swiftwater and flood animal rescues.
- LAPD and LAFD are working with county and private sector partners to map homeless encampments, identify those most at risk, and notify them prior to storms.
- The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority is opening its winter shelters one month earlier than usual and keeping them open one month later (November 1 – March 31). It's also adding 440 beds.
- The City is providing information about El Niño on www.ElNinoLA.com and is hosting Town Halls in person and on social media.